

**COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM PROVIDING LOAD BALANCING BASED  
UPON WEIGHTED HEALTH METRICS AND RELATED METHODS**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A communications system may include a plurality of servers connected together in a network, such as a wide area network (WAN). The servers may be for processing a plurality of different job types having respective different resource usage characteristics associated therewith. Moreover, each server may determine a respective health metric thereof based upon at least one job being processed thereby. Furthermore, each server may also weight the health metric based upon the respective resource usage characteristic of the at least one job. The system may also include a dispatcher for collecting the weighted health metrics from the servers and distributing jobs to the servers based thereon.